

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Election of Species Requirement in the Office Action dated September 28, 2006, applicants hereby elect Species IV (Figs. 11A to 11D, 12A and 12B) for prosecution on merits, in the event that no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Claims 15-47 read on the elected specie.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims to the non-elected species in a divisional application prior to issuance of a patent on the present application.

This election of species is made with traverse.

It is noted that the Examiner supports the Election of Species Requirement on the ground that the species are independent or distinct.

It is respectfully pointed out that the present application is a National Stage application submitted under 35 U.S.C. 371. As set forth in MPEP Section 1893.03(d), "examiners are reminded that unity of invention (not restriction) practice is applicable in international applications...and in national stage applications submitted under 35 U.S.C. §371."

The Examiner has not made the requisite showing of a lack of unity of invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement and prosecution on the merits of all of claims 14-53 is respectfully solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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